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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 162533
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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY P:DDNEWSOM:CHG
APPROVED BY P - MR NEWSOM
HA - MSCHNEIDER
EB (INFO)
ARA - MR BUSHNELL
DOD/OSD - MR MCGIFFERT
H - MR CUTTER
D - MR OXMAN
S/S-0: RCASTRODALE
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TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 162533

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, AR, MMOL

SUBJECT:HUMAN RIGHTS AND U.S. PROGRAMS IN ARGENTINA

REF: STATE 161509

1. ON BASIS FACT THAT IAHRC DOES NOT FEEL ABLE ACCEPT CONDITIONAL ARGENTINA INVITATION, SECRETARY HAS DECIDED THAT:

(A) WE CANNOT GO FORWARD, AS HOPED, WITH MILITARY TRAINING PACKAGE AND DEFENSE IS BEING INFORMED;

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(B) IN RECOGNITION OF MODEST IMPROVEMENTS, WE WILL (AFTER CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS) RELEASE SAFETY ITEMS (LISTED SEPTEL)
INCLUDING COMPASSES FOR VESSELS OF U.K. MANUFACTURE;

(C) WE WILL INFORM EXIM BANK THAT, ON FOREIGN POLICY GROUNDS, WE RECOMMEND AGAINST FINANCING

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FOR ARGENTINA AT THIS TIME (THIS APPLIES PRIMARILY
TO ALLIS CHALMERS APPLICATION FOR YACIRETA HYDRO-
ELECTRIC PROJECT);

(D) WE RECOMMEND AGAINST EXIM BINANCING-OR.AIR4RAFT.

BUT WOULD NOT OBJECT TO EXPORT IF THEY CAN BE
PRIVATELY FINANCED.

2. DEPARTMENT HOPES ARRANGE CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTA-
TIONS, INCLUDING SENATOR KENNEDY, ON THESE CASES
THIS WEEK.

3. EMBASSY MAY INFORM GOA, STRESSING DISAPPOINTMENT
THAT THEY HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE EXTEND NORMAL INVITA-
TION TO IAHRC (ALONG LINES OF OTHER LATIN AMERICAN
COUNTRIES) AND HAVE NOT AS YET BEEN ABLE MOVE
APPRECIABLY ON EITHER RELEASES OF DETAINEES OR
ESTABLISHMENT OF RESPONSIVE MACHINERY FOR THOSE
SEEKING INFORMATION ON RELATIVES WHO HAVE DISAPPEARED.
OF COURSE, ANY MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE IAHRC AND THE GOA ENABLING THE COMMISSION TO GO
TO ARGENTINA WOULD BE VIEWED AS A POSITIVE DEVELOP-
MENT. THESE POINTS STRESSED TO DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER
ALLARA AS REPORTED REFTEL. (FYI: ARGENTINA ALSO
HAS NOT HALTED ILLEGAL DETENTIONS AND DISAPPEARANCES.
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END FYI)

4. FYI: ANY PROSPECT THAT WE MIGHT HAVE CONSIDERED
EXIM BANK FINANCING APART FROM HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS
WAS ELIMINATED BY ALLARA'S INSISTENCE THAT GOA LOOKED
UPON RESTRICTIONS ON EXIM FINANCING AS POLITICAL ACT
AND CLEARLY SOUGHT APPROVAL OF SUCH FINANCING AS IN-
DICATION OF U.S. ACCEPTANCE. END FYI.

5. EXIM HAS INFORMED BOTH ALLIS-CHALMERS AND BOEING
OF DECISION.

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